

Serial No. 10/821,588

Docket No.: 55476US041

Amendments to the Claims

A detailed list of all claims under examination is set out below. Please amend claims 1-4 as shown below in marked form:

1. (currently amended): An improvement station for improving the uniformity of a liquid wet coating on a substrate having a direction of motion comprising:
 - a. ~~(a)~~ three two or more pick-and-place devices, ~~or that rotate or translate in the~~ direction of motion or
 - b. ~~(b)~~ two four or more ~~rotating periodic~~ pick-and-place devices ~~having the same~~ direction of rotation that rotate or translate counter to the direction of motion, ~~that can and in which the pick-and-place devices (a) or (b) periodically contact the wet~~ coating at a first position on the substrate and re-contact contact the wet ~~coating at different~~ positions on the substrate, wherein the periods of at least three of the devices are not ~~periodically related~~ whose lengths along the substrate with respect to the first position are not all the same.
2. (currently amended): An improvement station according to claim 1 wherein at least two of the pick-and-place devices (a) or (b) have contacting periods are selected so that the ~~that improve coating uniformity of the coating is improved~~ in the direction of substrate motion.
3. (currently amended): An improvement station according to claim 1 ~~comprising~~ wherein the pick-and-place devices (a) or (b) comprise a train of three or more rolls that ~~contact the liquid wet coating, wherein and the rotational periods of three or more of the rolls~~ are not periodically related to one another.
4. (currently amended): An improvement station according to claim 3 ~~comprising~~ wherein the pick-and-place devices (a) or (b) comprise a train of five or more rolls.

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5. (withdrawn): An apparatus comprising a coating station for applying an uneven coating to a substrate and an improvement station comprising two or more pick-and-place devices that can periodically contact and re-contact the coating at different positions on the substrate, wherein the periods of the devices are selected so that the uniformity of the coating is improved.
6. (withdrawn): An apparatus according to claim 5 wherein the coating station initially applies a discontinuous coating.
7. (withdrawn): An apparatus according to claim 6 wherein the coating station applies the coating in the form of one or more stripes.
8. (withdrawn): An apparatus comprising a coating station for applying a coating to a first substrate, an improvement station comprising two or more pick-and-place devices for contacting and re-contacting the coating at different positions on the first substrate whereby the coating becomes more uniform on such first substrate, and a transfer station for transferring the coating from the first substrate to a second substrate.
9. (withdrawn): An apparatus according to claim 8 comprising a coating station that coats at least one lane on said first substrate and a transfer station that transfers such lane to said second substrate.
10. (withdrawn): An apparatus according to claim 8 further comprising a drying station that dries the coating, wherein the pick-and-place devices comprise rolls that increase the rate of drying.
11. (withdrawn): An apparatus according to claim 5 further comprising a drying station that dries the coating, wherein the pick-and-place devices comprise rolls that increase the rate of drying.

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12. (withdrawn): An improvement station according to claim 1 further comprising a drying station that dries the coating, wherein the devices comprise rolls that increase the rate of drying.
13. (withdrawn): An apparatus that comprises a plurality of pick-and-place devices that contact and re-contact a substrate having an uneven wet coating, whereby the pick-and place devices increase the drying rate of the coating.
14. (withdrawn): An apparatus according to claim 13 wherein the uneven wet coating is discontinuous.
15. (withdrawn): An apparatus according to claim 13 wherein the substrate comprises a moving web.
16. (withdrawn): An apparatus according to claim 13 wherein the substrate comprises an electronic film, component or precursor thereof.
17. (withdrawn): An apparatus according to claim 13 wherein the coating wets one or more of the pick-and-place devices with a contact angle less than about 45°.
18. (withdrawn): An apparatus according to claim 13 comprising five or more pick-and-place devices.